AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

LISTING OF CLAIMS

1.   (Currently Amended) A networked system to assist a shopper in selecting a product intended for a user, the system comprising:

a)   a database of products having qualitative attributes subjectively assigned to the products that reflect information about potential users of the products;

b)   a server serving the database over a network;

c)   a user interface; and

d)   an expert system posing questions over the user interface to the shopper and querying the database in response to answers to the questions; [[and]]

e)   a projects database containing a data structure of projects with at least one of recommended products, or recommended product classes and attribute combinations; and

f)   a website harvesting information about projects that users are working on together with a list of products those users found helpful, wherein said website is configured to dynamically update said projects database at least one of as new projects are discovered by users, or as new uses for existing products are discovered by users;

wherein the questions posed comprise questions about the user and questions about the product, including at least one product for which the product should be suitable, and the selections made by the system are dependent upon the qualitative attributes assigned to the products, and projects for which the products are suitable.

2.   (Original) A system according to Claim 1, wherein the database is a local database directly connected to the server.

3.   (Original) A system according to Claim 1, wherein the database is connected to the server over a network.

4.   (Original) A system according to Claim 3, wherein the network is the Internet.

5.   (Original) A system according to Claim 1, wherein the database is periodically pumped from a dynamic central database.

6.   (Original) A system according to Claim 1, wherein the database is a dynamically updated central database.

7.   (Original) A system according to claim 1, further comprising a retail database containing price information and location information.

8.   (Original) A system according to claim 7, further comprising a retail server serving the retail database over the network, wherein the price information is provided to the user interface.

9.   (Original) A system according to Claim 1, wherein the user interface further comprises point and click ordering means.

10.   (Original) A system according to Claim 1, wherein the products are tools.

11.   (Original) A system according to claim 8, wherein the products are tools.

12.   (Original) A system according to claim 1, wherein the questions about the users comprise questions about the skill level of the user.

13.   (Original) A system according to claim 12, wherein the questions further comprise questions about the interests of the user.

14.   (Currently Amended) A networked system to assist a shopper in selecting a product, intended for a user, the system comprising:

a)   a database of products having qualitative attributes subjectively assigned to the products that reflect information about intended uses of the products;

b)   a server serving the database over a network;

c)   a user interface; and

d)   an expert system posing questions over the user interface to

the shopper and querying the database in response to answers to the questions; [[and]]

e)   a projects database containing a data structure of projects with at least one of recommended products, or recommended product classes and attribute combinations; and

f)   a website harvesting information about projects that users are working on together with a list of products those users found helpful, wherein said website is configured to dynamically update said projects database at least one of as new projects are discovered by users, or as new uses for existing products are discovered by users;

wherein the questions posed comprise questions about the user and questions about the product, including at least one product for which the product should be suitable, and the selections made by the system are dependent upon the qualitative attributes assigned to the products, and projects for which the products are suitable.

15.   (Original) A system according to claim 14, wherein the products are tools, and the questions comprise questions about the projects to be built with the tools.

16.   (Original) A system according to claim 14, wherein the network is the Internet.

17.   (Previously Presented) The system of claim 12, wherein the questions about the skill level of the user relate to questions about user skill levels respective of tool products.

18.   (Previously Presented) The system of claim 17, wherein the tool products have assigned user skill levels selected from non do-it yourselfer, light do-it yourselfer, medium do-it yourselfer, and serious do-it yourselfer.

19.   (Previously Presented) The system of claim 13, wherein the questions about the interests of the user relate to questions about user interests respective of tool products.

20.   (Previously Presented) The system of claim 19, wherein the tool products have assigned user interests selected from quick repair, easy cleaning ideas, car buff, do not know, refinishing/woodworking, renovation, crafts, any power tools, landscaping and lawn maintenance.

21. (Previously Presented) A system according to claim 12, wherein the questions further comprise questions about an occasion for which the product is being purchased.

22. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 21, wherein the questions about an occasion for which the product is being purchased relate to questions about purchase occasions respective of tool products.

23. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 22, wherein the tool products have assigned purchase occasions selected from hot products, gadget guru, multi-purpose, household basics, combo kits, and nothing in particular.

24. (Cancelled)

25. (Cancelled)